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○ ISSUE 20 | ○ VOLUME 7

Community *notes*

Howard County Closings for Thanksgiving

Howard County Government offices, courts, animal shelter, community centers, athletic centers, activity rooms, historic sites, 50+ centers and the Alpha Ridge Landfill will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday, November 24.



The County's holiday "slide" schedule will be in effect for trash pickup. The landfill and parks will re-open on Friday, November 25; however, County Government offices, courts, 50+ centers, historic sites and animal shelter will remain closed.

The 9-1-1 Center, Police and Fire departments remain staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For emergencies, call 9-1-1. For non-emergencies, please call (410) 313 2200.

Volunteer for Neighbor Ride

Neighbor Ride, a nonprofit transportation service dedicated to helping local seniors remain active, independent, and connected to the community, offers a fun and easy way for just about anyone to get involved. Volunteer drivers give seniors rides for health care appointments, cultural and social gatherings, religious services, exercise and educational activities, shopping, and other personal needs. Volunteers may choose to provide rides that fit both their schedules and are convenient to their homes, offices, and daily routines.

Volunteer orientations are held at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday mornings at the Neighbor Ride office, right across the street from the mall (5570 Sterrett Place, Suite 102, Columbia 21044) and offsite orientation sessions may be arranged for groups of five or more. Contact Holly Waddell or Patrice Cerwonka at (410) 884 7433, email volunteer@neighborride.org, or go [online](#) for more information.

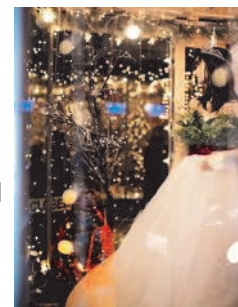
Greetings

With Thanksgiving right around the corner, our thoughts are focused on family and thankfulness for all that is good in our lives. Enjoy the holiday!

May Kay

Ellicott City Official Grand Reopening!

Old Ellicott City's grand re-opening is on Saturday, November 26 starting at 10 a.m.! There's no better way to do all of your holiday shopping while supporting local businesses this year!



There will be street performers and carolers, Baltimore Symphony musicians playing around the town, and of course, many irresistible shopping opportunities at our beloved locally owned stores. Take some time out of your Saturday to support Ellicott City and celebrate all of the progress that has been made since the July flood. There is even an opportunity to get a free commemorative t-shirt at the Howard County Welcome Center. For more information, visit Old Ellicott City's new website [here](#).

Reminder: Share the Bounty of Thanksgiving

Community Action Council of Howard County asks the community to help more than 800 Howard County families receive Thanksgiving dinner with the trimmings through Wegmans' "Check Out Hunger" campaign. Customers may donate \$1, \$3, \$5 or more (please) when checking out at Wegmans Columbia store now through November 28. Your donation will go towards providing Thanksgiving dinner to those in need.

Giving Tuesday



#GIVINGTUESDAY

Are you already preparing for Black Friday and Cyber Monday shopping after Thanksgiving? Think about also participating in Giving Tuesday on November 29! Giving Tuesday is the time to research organizations and non profits around your area and think about how you can help out your community. By simply going to givingtuesday.org, you can search for charities you are interested in supporting in seconds. Think about helping others through your time, donations, goods, or your voice this coming Tuesday by joining the Giving Tuesday movement.

Howard County's 9th Annual WomenFest

WomenFest, hosted by the Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services, is a celebration of businesses that offer products and services that promote women's health, wellness, technology, fashion and beauty. Interested businesses are invited to register for exhibit space for the 9th annual WomenFest held on April 29 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Gary J. Arthur Community Center in Cooksville, Maryland.

Coordinated by the Department's Office on Aging and Independence, last year's WomenFest attracted more than 600 participants and 100 vendors and exhibitors. This year's event will feature free health screenings, a series of interactive workshops and engaging seminars, cooking demos and a wide array of vendors and exhibitors of products and services geared towards women.

Vendor and exhibitor applications, sponsorship opportunities and full event details are available online [here](#). Applications may be faxed to (410) 313 5950 or mailed to: WomenFest 2017, c/o Donna Tugwell, Howard County Office on Aging and Independence (6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 211, Columbia, MD 21046).

In Her Shoes Workshop



In Her Shoes is an interactive simulation workshop to learn about domestic violence which will be held on Saturday, December 10 at 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. at the HopeWorks Office (5457 Twin Knolls Rd. Columbia MD, 21045). You will have the opportunity to move, do, think and experience the lives of women who are being abused. Following the interactive simulation there will a discussion on the dynamics of domestic violence and the opportunity to hear about the mission and services of HopeWorks.

Please call Vanita Leatherwood, Director of Community Engagement at (410) 997 0304 for more information or go to their website [here](#).

The Dazzle Dash & Symphony of Lights

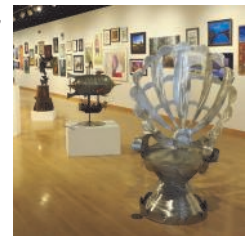
The Dazzle Dash fun run kicks everything off for the Symphony of lights on November 20, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Friends and families gather to walk or run through the magical outdoor display of lights at the fun run/walk (1 mile) or the new 5K race (3.1 miles). Come and experience the excitement as the holiday season begins! The Symphony of lights will open November 20 through January 1, 2017. Don't miss out!



Symphony of Lights presents a series of special events this year for families, children, pets, cyclists, runners, walkers and members of the military. For more information, visit their [website](#) or call (410) 740 7666.

Arts Council Open House Holiday Sale

The Howard County Arts Council hosts its annual Open House & Holiday Sale on Friday, December 2, 2016, from 5:30 to 8:30p.m. Local artists will offer unique and affordable art and handcrafted items for sale including jewelry, wearables, accessories, paintings, glass art, quilts, photography, prints, wooden vessels, fiber art, and greeting cards. The studios of HCAC resident artists and arts organizations will also be open to the public from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be provided.



Entry to the Open House & Holiday Sale is free and open to the public. For more information, call (410) 313 2787 or email visitorservices@hocoarts.org.

Donate to Grassroots Crisis Center!

Grassroots Crisis Prevention Center has issued their 2016



Holiday Wish List. Please help make the holidays special for Grassroots clients by donating items such as gift cards to Walmart, grocery stores or gas stations. Items for the entire family are needed (especially teens). You can find the full wish list [here](#).

Please drop off NEW and unwrapped items to 6700 Freetown Road in Columbia by Friday, December 16.

Howard County Health Department Survey

The Howard County Health Department is evaluating its visibility and the knowledge of services we offer. In efforts to reach as much of the general population of Howard County as possible and are asking for your assistance. Please complete this survey to help us strengthen the awareness of the resources and services available for all who live, work and visit Howard County. The survey is anonymous and takes just 2-3 minutes to complete. You can access the survey [here](#).

Dr. Martin Luther King Essay Submission

Middle and High schoolers are encouraged to submit an essay about their dreams for a better community for the upcoming Martin Luther King holiday event. The deadline for submitting the essay has been extended to December 2. This essay contest is a chance for students to voice their dreams and visions for a better world in the name of Dr. Martin Luther King jr. There are monetary prizes for first, second, and third place which will be awarded at the MLK celebration on Sunday, January 15 at 2:00 p.m. at Long Reach High School. For more information about the essay guidelines and where to submit, click [here](#).



Women Hall of Fame Nominations Requested

The Women's Hall of Fame honors up to five Howard County women who have made significant contributions to Howard County, the state of Maryland, or the nation. Nomination forms that include nominations requirements can be downloaded [here](#). Forms can also be requested via email at women@howardcountymd.gov. The deadline for nominations is Wednesday, November 30 at 5:00 p.m.

Arts' Scholarship Opportunity

Attention high school seniors: are you planning to pursue higher education in the arts? The Howard County Arts Council's 2017 Arts Scholarship Application is now available!



Applications for the scholarship program must be submitted online. Prospective applicants should visit HCAC's [website](#) to initiate the application process. Applications must be submitted electronically by January

18, 2017. Contact the Howard County Arts Council at 410-313-2787 or email info@hocoarts.org for more information.

Seeking Applicants for Disability Commission

The Commission on Disability Issues is currently seeking applicants with a disability who would be interested in serving a five-year term. The Commission is comprised of 15 voting members including people with disabilities, service providers, family members of people with disabilities and the community-at-large. The Commission advises Howard County Government on issues affecting people with disabilities and also provides guidance and recommendations on Americans with Disabilities Act compliance. The deadline to apply is Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 5:00 p.m.

For more information on the Commission on Disability Issues visit their website [here](#) or contact Michelle Henry, ADA Coordinator at 410-313-6431 or email mhenry@howardcountymd.gov.

Upcoming Events

Whole Foods Market of Columbia invites you for a Fond Farewell to Retiring Grassroots Executive Director Andrea Ingram **Holiday Food and Wine Tasting** to benefit Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center on Monday, November 28, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the Lakeside Café. Tickets: \$65 pp, \$100 for sponsors (includes one ticket). First come, first served. Only 100 tickets will be sold. You can purchase tickets [online](#).

Town Center's 12th Annual Craft Fair

Saturday, November 19, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Historic Oakland Manor

5430 Vantage Point Rd

Town Center Community Association is having its annual craft fair at Historic Oakland this weekend. Shop for unique, hand made holiday gifts on Saturday.

Reservoir's production of *Peter Pan*

November 17, 18, 19 at 7:00 p.m.

November 19th and 20th at 2:00 p.m.

Reservoir High School

Tickets are available online [here](#) for \$12 or at the door.

Wilde Lake's production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*

November 17, 18, 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Jim Rouse Theater

Tickets will be available at the door.

Annual Bollman Bridge Lighting

Saturday, December 3 at 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Savage Mill

Enjoy festive live entertainment during the traditional lighting of the Bollman Bridge, followed by the Community Tree Lighting at Carroll Baldwin Hall. Make sure to look out for Santa at 5:30 p.m.!



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